

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

Carpet-Baggers and Negroes.

From the Boston Post. The reconstruction problem, under the policy of Congress, is working itself out in a manner which effectually demolishes all preconceived Republican theories upon the subject.

Who would have thought that these Southern patriots, par excellence, these vaunted champions of negro equality, would have been the first to repudiate "an American citizen of African descent?"

But having thus prematurely shown their true colors, and thrown the negro overboard, with the millstone of political disability tied to his neck—as the Democrats were accused of intending to do, in case they came into power again—the organs of the radical party are at their wits' end to avert the danger to their cause which this Georgia legislative imbroglio is likely to inflict upon it here at the North.

But this dodge will not answer to cover up the radical tracks in this little affair of discord in "the happy South." The pretense is too barefaced to touch at variance with well-known facts to deceive the public.

The National Debt.

From the N. Y. Tribune. The debt of the United States on the 1st inst., is officially reported by Secretary McCullough, as follows: Total debt interest... \$2,182,292,169 Do not which interest has stopped... 12,955,214 Do never yet bearing interest... 412,951,911

General Grant and the French Military Critics.

From the N. Y. Evening Post. The World follows up its personal abuse of the greatest soldier of the republic by printing a letter dated Paris, from our own correspondent, which begins thus: "Public opinion throughout Europe is elated with the hopes of seeing the Republican monarchy at an end in the United States.

comprehensiveness which had been lacking till then. Only one man united these conditions—General U. S. Grant. For two years his name had steadily grown in splendor, by the fame of the successes of our armies in the West.

And, after sketching the means used and the results obtained, General de Trobriand adds: "This series of operations, conducted with as much perseverance and energy; these obstacles met on all sides; these services rendered up by every agency; these battles succeeding battles and victories linked with victories; and this persistence of effort,—there you have General Grant."

There is reason, it would seem, to suspect that the World's correspondent in Paris, perhaps by not understanding the peculiar dialect there spoken, has confounded two very different men. There are two candidates for the next Presidency, and there is one of them, not General Grant, for whom it may be said, without serious violence to truth, that "the utmost contempt is felt in Europe."

But our business now is merely with French military criticism, and its highest authority, General de Trobriand, by the tone of his attitude of the Governor of New York in the dark days of the Union, the summer of 1863.

Does not the World admire the frank, direct way these French military critics have of speaking their minds? What everybody here knows to be true, but nobody is quite disrespectful enough to say, they put in the plainest language, without circumlocution.

Black and White in the "Tribune."

From the N. Y. Tribune. There must still, we suppose, be some honest people left who really believe that black is black and white white. If any such do exist, and if it ever occurs to any of them through accident or design to pick up a current number of the New York Tribune, its articles on the Southern aspect of the passing political crisis, must affect them very much as De Morgan would be affected by a series of papers written to prove that two and two in exceptional cases make five, or Darwin, by an attempt to demonstrate the direct descent of the Massachusetts sea-serpent from the union of a Spanish Jack with a Florida alligator.

General Forrest, in a long and frank conversation with a Northern correspondent, declares his belief that nothing could possibly make the Southern white people punish the negroes for that tyranny over their late masters of which Brownlow and his cut-throats have made them the tools.

Upon this the Tribune, which knows that this feeling is shared by the people and embodied in the Constitutions of New York, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, California, in short of every Northern and Western State in which the negroes are found in numbers sufficient to make it at all worth while to consider them as a political element, deliberately accuses General Lee, and through him the Southern people, of being hostile to regarding and treating the negroes as human beings, with the rights pertaining to humanity.

The Tribune suppose that the use of a capital letter H in spelling "humanity" invests such wretched cant as this with an air of philosophical candor? The Declaration of Independence was put forth to the world by the representatives of thirteen American Commonwealths, in which "political power" was withheld, not only from negroes in and out of slavery, but from thousands of white laboring men, from white women, from white children.

Upon this the Tribune declares that "accustomed to the Southern legislation by the Northern people whom those blacks had so greatly aided to put down the Southern Rebellion would be criminal perjury." Is this sort of stuff written to be read by men or by moon-calves? Not to speak of the monstrous perversion of historical truth involved in the assertion that the "Northern people were aided to put down the Southern Rebellion" by the millions of blacks who remained quietly at their homes, working for their owners and feeling the South to be their country.

ence; and Mr. Lincoln's had to bear up against the damage thus wrought to our national credit, as well as to pay the debt, principal and interest, thus contracted. Mr. Fessenden was constrained to borrow a very large amount at 7-10 interest; all which has now been funded at six per cent. (five-twentieths) save a fraction on which interest has stopped altogether.

Mr. McCulloch still persists in keeping on hand \$92,570,901 in specie; from which deduct the amount of his Certificates of Deposit (\$25,161,620), and his net coin surplus is \$67,409,281. His total indebtedness here is at least \$50,000,000 of coin hoarded which might far better have long since been expended in buying up matured debt.

But the people can and will pay their debt. This is not nearly so difficult an undertaking as was the overthrow of the rebellion. Let us survey the past and take courage:— Funds & Debt of the United States, less cash in the Treasury:—

Table with 2 columns: Date and Amount. Includes entries for March 31, 1861, July 1, 1862, Jan 1, 1863, etc.

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servicing encouragement and protection? Of course, some vagrant laws are better than other vagrant laws, but to denounce the making of vagrant laws as a crime, because they are likely to affect a race which happens to enjoy the privilege of being black, is such a piece of folly as hardly needs to be said.

Does the Tribune, therefore, propose that the power of regulating their own domestic affairs and of determining what shall exercise the control of political power among them shall be taken away by General Grant's bayonets from the people of Massachusetts and Connecticut?

Democratic Conservatism and Republican Radicalism.

From the Charleston (S. C.) Courier. Democratic conservatism is ruin, but Republican radicalism is peace, order, and prosperity. This extract from the editorial column of one of the Northern journals, conveys, in a single sentence, the efforts in the interests of the Republican party to pervert the truth and maintain a rule of wrong and injustice.

The large majority of the Northern people are, beyond doubt, opposed to the Reconstruction. If they had preferred a restoration effected upon the simple and safe basis of the Constitution, they are aware that the Republican party have been in the absolute control of the Government ever since the cessation of hostilities, and could have had a permanent and fraternal peace at any moment.

That opinion has already had voice at the ballot-box. It has had expression on the Atlantic as well as the Pacific slope; and the expression forebodes a verdict of condemnation at the hands of the American people in November next.

A Democratic triumph, it is transparent, can have no effect upon the issues involved in the late struggle. It can in no way establish the independence of the late Confederate States. The issues of the war are decided and decided forever. It is true the arbiters are the sword.

The controversy is not as to the past. It is as to the present. The South have accepted the Government of these United States as their Government, its flag as their flag, and its Constitution as their Constitution. It is therefore, as a part of the common country that they ask to be recognized, and for an equal share in its laws and its rights.

It is peace to have overthrown the governments of the South, and to have erected in their place those born of the bayonet, and in so doing representing the interest or voice of the accursed rebel? It is to have made the white race aliens and strangers upon their own soil, and to have placed them in subjection to another and inferior race just emerged from a condition of slavery? Is it properly to have kept the Union dismembered practically for over four years, and prevented that restoration under the Constitution by which unity, peace and prosperity might long since have been happily accomplished?

We allude to his memorable letter written on the 21st November, 1863, when the power of his administration was invoked, to place the portion of Louisiana, then in the possession of Federal arms, under "carpet bag" government. This he refused to do in the following words:

Dear Sir:—Dr. Kennedy, bearer of this, has some apprehensions that the Federal officers, not citizens of Louisiana, may be set up as candidates for Congress in that State. In my view there could be no possible objection in such an election. We do not particularly need members of Congress to enable us to get along with legislation here. What we do want is conclusive evidence that respectable citizens of Louisiana are willing to be members of Congress, and swear to support the Constitution; and that other respectable citizens there are willing to vote for them.

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